

## **District III Advisory Board Minutes**

July 2, 2003

[www.wichita.gov](http://www.wichita.gov)

**July 2, 2003  
7:00 p.m.**

**Colvin Neighborhood City Hall  
2820 S. Roosevelt**

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 2820 S. Roosevelt. In attendance was the District III City Council member and seven (7) District Advisory Board members. Seven (7) City staff were present and approximately (15) fifteen members of the public who signed in.

### **Members Present**

Matt Foley  
Phyllis Hall  
Charlotte Foster  
Laura Simpson  
Jim Gulick  
Bill Ward  
Judy Dillard

### **Members Absent**

John Kemp  
Lois Ann Newman  
Phil Bloomquist

### **Staff Present**

Vicki Mork  
Officer Long Nguyen  
Officer Virgil Miller  
Officer Jeffery Andres  
Scott Knebel  
Jack Brown  
Sarah Gilbert

### **Guests**

Listed on page 7

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **Call to Order**

**Council Member Lambke** called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Minutes for June 4, 2003 were approved with corrections noted. Motion made by Foley (Foster) to accept them and it passed 7-0.

**Action: Received and filed.**

## **Public Agenda**

### **No items scheduled**

#### **1. Sedgwick County Health Dept.**

**Jerry Franz** gave updates on the proposed Sedgwick County Health Department changes and presented survey results based on an assessment of the customers of their facilities. The major survey results showed over 67% of clients drove to the health clinics and about 25% of the consumers at Colvin had no insurance.

The Health Department wants to improve the marketing of their services, many of their services can be accessed by anyone. is looking to expand dental care. The Harry Street location could possibly feature evening and Saturday morning services.

The Health Dept. would probably consolidate south operations at the Wichita Mall in late fall. Operations at Colvin would probably continue one day a week.

**Recommended Action: Receive and file.**

## **Staff Presentation**

#### **2. Community Police Report**

**Officer Jeffery Andres** reports no major problems in his area with the exception of cars parking on the grass at Linwood Park.

**Officer Virgil Miller** reports no major problems in his area. He informed those present that he will be on vacation and Officer Dave Crump will be filling in for him. Miller says South City Baptist Church is selling raffle tickets, as "Mary" needs double lung transplant.

**Officer Long Nguyen** presented information about the PACK program, it is a low cost summer recreation program for Planeview kids between Kindergarten and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. A free lunch and a nutritious snack are available M-F for any child in the neighborhood that wants it. The program began last year with about 80 children and it has expanded to include 150 children this year with a waiting list. One of the high points of each week for the kids is playing soccer with WPD officers.

**Recommended Action: Receive and file.**

#### **3. Planning Department-ZON2003-00027**

**Scott Knebel, MAPD** presented information regarding a requested zone change from "LC" Limited Commercial to "OW" Office Warehouse. The warehouse type building was built in 1972. It is currently vacant and chances of occupancy are limited due to building not being zoned as a warehouse. Staff recommends approval of zoning change. **Knebel** said he drove by the building today and the owner has a sign out advertising inside RV storage.

**Dillard** said the location has limited outdoor parking and access because it sits behind other businesses. **Foster** asked if dangerous materials could be stored and **Knebel** replied that would be a matter for the WFD code.

**Recommended Action: Dillard (Hall) moved to approve the zoning change. Motion carried 7-0.**

**4. Community Services Block Grant Review Committee**

**Sarah Gilbert, Career Development** explained the history and reason for members being appointed to the SCBG review committee. They are looking for DAB members to serve by representing one of the four areas represented.

**Judy Dillard** volunteered to represent the council. **Matt Foley** volunteered to serve in low income designated areas. **Sarah** said she would be in touch with Dillard and Foley in a few weeks.

**Recommended Action: That DAB III members volunteer for appointment by Council Member Lambke to the CSBG Review Committee.**

**5. Environmental Health Department**

**Jack Brown, Director** presented information from experts that dogs constantly chained become more aggressive. Certain practices are closely aligned with dog fighting which is very difficult to prosecute. Nearly 30% of animal control calls are related to abuse issues including tethered dogs many of which are fighting dogs purposely chained with heavy weighted chain to make them more aggressive and stronger.

**Ward** asked which fine would cost more, a leash law violation or one for a dog tethered for over one hour, it was thought they would be about the same. **Gulick** asked if this proposed change was an addition to an existing law and was told it was. **Brown** said community interests brought this issue to his attention. **Gulick** expressed concern about enforcement and asked if the current leash law was being enforced 100% of the time.

**Christen Skaer, 404 S. Edgemoor**, a veterinarian said she has treated many dogs with a chain embedded one half inch into their neck from being on a tether 24 hours a day seven days a week. She also said it was cruel to the animal and increased aggressiveness. **Dillard** protested the possible enforcement of the proposed ordinance saying stray dogs run wild in her area and Animal Control can't keep up. She felt tethering dogs was acceptable within limits but protested the 1 hour limit strongly, saying the 1 hour was too limiting. **Foley** asked if tethering with anything would be against the law and he was told yes. He also asked if fences would be required and was told no. **Hall** said she also disagreed with the one-hour limit.

**Sonia Greteman, 8621 Tipperary** identified herself as an animal lover in the community. She said the ordinance came about in defense of dogs being on a chain 24 hours a day seven days a week. Many cities such as Washington D.C., Denver, Lincoln, Lawton, and Austin have passed this law and it is enforceable. She explained this law added to the arsenal used to combat cruelty to dogs and fighting them. She explained the one hour time limit is highly enforceable by animal control and wouldn't be if the time was extended. **Gulick** asked for enforcement statistics.

**Foster** said she had dangerous dogs in her neighborhood that couldn't be contained with in a fence. **Ward** said there should be a requirement that says dog ownership requires a fence. Ward also said he was concerned about selectively enforcing the ordinance unless there's cruelty involved.

**Ellen Querner, 1112 N. Roosevelt** works with PALS animal rescue. She has been in the business of animal welfare for 30 years. She presented both anecdotal information as well as, pictures of animals she photographed in District III showing deplorable conditions.

**Querner** cited examples of animals becoming more aggressive because of constant chaining. She said the excuses for chaining dogs are all invalid. Tethering dogs puts them at great danger in many ways. There are many options for dog owners. Dogs are not meant to live on chains. Dog fighting is very hard to prosecute but not allowing dog chaining eliminates ownership of dogs for the wrong reasons.

**Jesse Sheffield, 2526 S. Mosley** said his neighbor has a dog on a chain with no food or water and finds the smell offensive. He believes the ordinance should be passed. **Melody Stucky, 2756 Mason Terrace** says she's had her experience with animal control and has had stray dogs let out for 12 hours. She says she's not sure this is the answer. **Gay Quisenberry** said 1 hour in 24 is not realistic. She says the proposal was too cut and dried.

**Foley** agreed animal cruelty is deplorable but poor people with small yards can't afford fences. He finds the proposal is seriously flawed. He said his neighborhood was not like College Hill and other considerations need to be made. **Ward** says he's opposed to the ordinance as it's written and says it needs to be a 3-hour limit. **Hall** says there are already laws on animal cruelty.

**Dillard (Hall)** moved that the proposal be defeated, she supports the ordinance except for one-hour limit. She explained that she is physically unable to walk her dog.

**Recommended Action: Motion made to defeat the ordinance, it passed unanimously 7-0.**

## **6. Environmental Health**

**Jack Brown, Director** presented the issue of banning ownership of dangerous dog breeds and explained the constraints being proposed for pitbulls, rottweilers and any

dogs of a mixture of the breeds. **Melody Stucky, 2756 Mason Terrace** asked if only those two breeds are targeted and was told they were. **Jack** explained there is a dangerous dog ordinance already, which applies to any dog determined to be vicious. The ordinance imposes certain restrictions upon ownership conditions for such a dog.

**Officer Miller** spoke as a former rottweiler owner and says that the people that own these dogs are the ones who make them vicious. He cited examples of public housing in South Wichita, it has policies against dog ownership, but they are not being enforced. All kinds of dog breeds run around that neighborhood that are not tagged, not restrained by fence or tether, and doesn't believe a new law will make a difference.

**Querner** spoke against law and says the \$200,000 insurance requirement was not possible. **Ward** asked if the required insurance was to be a specific liability. **Jack** said not specific. **Jesse Sheffield** said he owns pit bulls. He has complied with all city rules and regulations and they are very loving and sociable dogs. He disagrees with the proposed law. **Joann Hartig** said something needs to be done as she narrowly escaped her neighbor's pitbull, which was friendly to the neighbors. **Dr. Christen Skaer** stated her opposition against the ordinance.

**Foley** said many rottweilers and pitbulls had to be put down in Hilltop. **Foley** said the way the current ordinance existing is not enforced and believes it needs modification. This will affect owners more than those that flaunt the law without additional enforcement. **Ward** suggested vets should report these types of dogs. Which would probably prevent dogs being vaccinated says this law creates a monster. **Dillard** said it was a feel good ordinance but it's not an enforceable ordinance that will accomplish anything and he does not favor it.

**Dillard (Hall)** moved the ordinance be defeated. Discussion continued as **Foley** asked for statistics of dog bites by breed. **Foster** called for enforcement of existing laws said this law was a fiasco.

**Recommended Action: Motion made that ordinance be denied, passed unanimously. 7-0.**

### **Board Agenda**

#### **7. Updates, Issues and Reports**

**Charlotte Foster** said the DAB orientation was very beneficial and she received more information from City departments than ever before. She referred to Chris Cherches' remarks about the \$14 million deficit facing the City.

**Foley** expresses concern for public safety based on information from Rob Reines budget presentation. **Foster** has concerns that money shouldn't be spent on the water walk. **Ward** asked that all DAB's participate in the City budget development through prioritization of essential services. This is especially important in view of the \$14 million short fall in the City budget. He proposed the following resolution be adopted:

In view of the \$14 million short fall in the City of Wichita budget all District Advisory Boards should participate in the prioritization of essential city services.

**Recommended Action: Motion passed unanimously, 7-0.**

**Foley, H.A.N.D.** said Community Policing Officer Mat Young had 30 neighborhood kids signed up for his summer basketball clinic.

**Simpson, E. Mt. Vernon Association** reported she turned in petitions to Council member Lambke that evening signed by members of her neighborhood association about the constant debris and junk in the yard of 1927 S. Edgemoor. She explained the owner filled his front yard with all kinds of objects and rocks from the nearby drainage ditch. She said many complaints had been lodged with Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant and Environmental Health had recently abated the property, however it still contained all kinds of items. They were tired of messing with it. **Jack Brown, Environmental Health** said he would look into it.

**Foster** invited Council Member Lambke and Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant to attend the Fabrique NA meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. She also reported a car stored in the front yard of 5801 E. Lincoln, there was a car on jacks and covered up in the driveway at 5820 E. Castle and requested they be reported to Environmental Health and OCI.

**8. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting for District Advisory Board III will be August 6, 2003 at Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 7:00 p.m.

**No Action Required**

**Adjournment**

**Motion made to adjourn by Ward (Gulick)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant  
District III

**Visitors**

Scott Knebel	City of Wichita
Esther Henderson	3452 Ida
Betty Shockland	1302 Galena
Jesse Sheffield	2526 S. Mosley
Christen Skaer	134 N. Old Manor

Micky Snyder	8105 Holyoke
Ellen Querner	1112 N. Roosevelt
Sonia Greteman	8621 Tipperayn
Jen McGill	2035 S. Mosley
Officer Virgil Miller	WPD
Ted Keehn	Hilltop
Officer Jeffery Andres	WPD
Officer Long Nguyen	WPD
Joann Hartig	1756 S. Main
Jim & Kerin Smith	Meadowlark
Melody Stucky	2756 Mason Terrace
Jack Brown	City of Wichita
Jim Ward	250 S. Rutan
Lonny Wright	2320 Alameda